



AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

Population: Questions on Income (P-41-42)

QUESTIONS AS THEY APPEAR IN THE QUESTIONNAIRE

41

INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

Mark (X) the "Yes" box for each type of income this person received, and give your best estimate of the TOTAL AMOUNT during the PAST 12 MONTHS. (NOTE: The "past 12 months" is the period from today's date one year ago up through today.)

Mark (X) the "No" box to show types of income NOT received.

If net income was a loss, mark the "Loss" box to the right of the dollar amount.

For income received jointly, report the appropriate share for each person – or, if that's not possible, report the whole amount for only one person and mark the "No" box for the other person.

a. Wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, or tips from all jobs. Report amount before deductions for taxes, bonds, dues, or other items.

☐ Yes → \$.00
☐ No TOTAL AMOUNT for past 12 MONTHS

FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL USES OF DATA ABOUT INCOME

- The Department of Education uses these data to allocate grants in high poverty areas.
- The Department of Housing and Urban Development uses these data to help allocate low-income housing assistance.
- Business proprietors use these data to determine demographic and economic trends in their service areas and to adjust their product lines or services accordingly.
- State and local governments, faith-based and other non-profit organizations, and businesses use these data to plan, budget, and pay benefits.

<www.census.gov/acs/www>

b. Self-employment income from own nonfarm businesses or farm businesses, including proprietorships and partnerships. Report NET income after business expenses.

☐ Yes → \$.00 ☐ Loss
☐ No TOTAL AMOUNT for past 12 MONTHS

c. Interest, dividends, net rental income, royalty income, or income from estates and trusts. Report even small amounts credited to an account.

☐ Yes → \$.00 ☐ Loss
☐ No TOTAL AMOUNT for past 12 MONTHS

d. Social Security or Railroad Retirement.

☐ Yes → \$.00
☐ No TOTAL AMOUNT for past 12 MONTHS

e. Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

☐ Yes → \$.00
☐ No TOTAL AMOUNT for past 12 MONTHS

f. Any public assistance or welfare payments from the state or local welfare office.

☐ Yes → \$.00
☐ No TOTAL AMOUNT for past 12 MONTHS

g. Retirement, survivor, or disability pensions. Do NOT include Social Security.

☐ Yes → \$.00
☐ No TOTAL AMOUNT for past 12 MONTHS

h. Any other sources of income received regularly such as Veterans' (VA) payments, unemployment compensation, child support or alimony. Do NOT include lump sum payments such as money from an inheritance or the sale of a home.

☐ Yes → \$.00
☐ No TOTAL AMOUNT for past 12 MONTHS

42

What was this person's total income during the PAST 12 MONTHS? Add entries in questions 41a to 41h; subtract any losses. If net income was a loss, enter the amount and mark (X) the "Loss" box next to the dollar amount.

☐ None OR \$.00 ☐ Loss
TOTAL AMOUNT for past 12 MONTHS

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Helping You Make Informed Decisions



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EXAMPLES OF LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR DATA ABOUT INCOME

- National School Lunch Program
- Social Security Act
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program
- Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000

WHY WE ASK IT THIS WAY

In household surveys, respondents tend to underreport income. Asking the list of specific sources of income helps respondents remember all income amounts that have been received.

The eight specific sources of income also provide needed detail about items such as earnings, retirement income, and public assistance. Answers to the income questions are used to derive poverty status.

HISTORY OF THE INCOME QUESTIONS

- Questions on income have been asked since 1940.
- The question also was asked on the Census 2000 long-form questionnaire.

WHAT IS THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY?

The American Community Survey (ACS) is a nationwide survey that collects socioeconomic and housing information and is the planned replacement for the long form in the 2010 Census.

The U.S. Census Bureau plans to conduct the American Community Survey in every county, American Indian and Alaska Native Area, Hawaiian Home Land, and in Puerto Rico, once it is fully implemented, pending Congressional funding. The ACS has been tested across the country since 1996.

HOW CAN I SEE THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY?

The information collected from these tests is published on the Census Bureau's Web site at:

<www.census.gov/acs/www>

and American FactFinder at:

<<http://factfinder.census.gov>>

For more information call, e-mail, or visit our Web site:

1-888-456-7215

<cmo.acs@census.gov>

<<http://www.census.gov/acs/www>>

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